

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE

14-02

5-10-02

FOOD SECURITY GUIDELINES

I. BACKGROUND

A. The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has prepared Food Security Guidelines to assist Federal and State inspected establishments that produce meat, poultry, and egg products in identifying ways to strengthen their biosecurity protection. FSIS recognizes that inspected establishments may be aware of, and are adopting guidance from other government and private sector organizations and agencies. However, some establishments that lack resources to seek specialized security-planning advice may find FSIS' guidelines particularly useful as they develop and improve their food security plans.

B. The guidelines are voluntary, and establishments may choose to adopt measures suggested by different sources. It is vital however that all food-processing establishments take steps to ensure the security of their operations.

II. How will FSIS make these guidelines available?

FSIS will send the food security guidelines out in a pamphlet form to all Federal and State inspected establishments and to the Inspector-in-Charge at the establishments. The guidelines will also be posted on the FSIS website and will be distributed through the Small and Very Small Plant HACCP network, industry groups, and extension services.

III. Do inspection program personnel have responsibilities related to the guidelines?

No. Establishments are not obligated to implement any of the guidelines, and therefore inspection personnel have no regulatory verification duties related to the guidelines.

DISTRIBUTION: Inspection Offices;
T/A Inspectors; Plant Mgt; T/A Plant
Mgt; ABB; TSC; Import Offices

NOTICE EXPIRES: 5-10-03

OPI: OPPDE

If plant management seeks further clarification or advice relative to the guidelines, inspection program personnel may direct establishments to the Technical Service Center at 1-800-233-3935.

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and Evaluation